

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 35 are pending in the Application. Claims 1 – 35 have been rejected. Claims 1, 23, 31 and 35 have now been amended.

Terminal Disclaimer

The Examiner is thanked for accepting the terminal disclaimer filed on November 13, 2006.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1 - 3, 8, 12 – 21, 23 – 25, 27 – 29 31, 33 and 35 under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Pryor in view of Toshiba, and claims 9 – 11, 22, 30, 32, and 34 as unpatentable over Pryor and Toshiba, as applied above, in further view of Hopper. Claims 4 – 7 and 26 are rejected in view of Pryor and Toshiba as above and further in view of Carangelo and Zigler.

Favorable reconsideration of this rejection in view of the above amendments and the following explanations is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 23, 31 and 35 have been amended to emphasize that the current teaching is of a system in which there are a limited number of configurations of limited access spaces to be inspected. Typically these would be different models of vehicles. The scanning program is then selected for the current model of car so that the scan is specific to the current model.

As each car arrives at the inspection system I select the program for the specific model and then the camera scans according to the program and provides a scan which is customized for the specific vehicle. Thus the particular shape of the underside of the vehicle is specifically catered for each time.

Pryor merely teaches a scanning system in which a camera runs on a rail and rotates. Toshiba teaches a scanning system in which programming information to execute specific moves such as rotation is provided.

Toshiba merely teaches programming specific movements – viz "a turning control means that stores in advance turning position information and controls the turning of the turning position information". That is to say it appears that Toshiba only teaches programming of individual moves and does not teach programming of a complete scan.

Furthermore, there is no teaching from Toshiba to provide a set of programs, that is a set of complete scans for each one of a closed set of limited access spaces so that a particular scanning program can be selected for the current space.

The material that is not taught in Toshiba is not to be found in Pryor and neither is it to be found in any of the other citations.

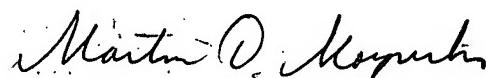
It is therefore believed that each of the independent claims as amended is both novel and inventive and the Examiner's rejections are overcome.

The remaining claims mentioned in the Office Action are believed to be allowable as being dependent on an allowable main claim.

No new matter is added by the present amendments, as the application as filed teaches the program being specific to the kind of vehicle.

All of the matters raised by the Examiner have been dealt with and are believed to have been overcome. In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all the claims now pending in the application are allowable over the cited reference. An early Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Encl.:

Request for Continued Examination (RCE)